

EDITOR'S PAGE

State of the Journal

With this fifth issue of the journal it is important to take a look at where we are and why we are here. *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* was initiated to provide a forum for reporting clinically important developments in the broad field of cardiovascular interventions. It was felt that the 10% acceptance rate of interventional papers by the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* (*JACC*) would leave a large number of excellent papers that deserved to be published and would be of great interest to physicians performing interventions as well as others. Now with 1 year of experience we find that most submissions are coming directly to *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*, but the relationship to the parent *JACC* is also seamless. To emphasize this point, the cover of *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* will be modified to reflect the *JACC* brand even more than before.

How Are Articles Submitted?

Papers can be submitted to *JACC* or *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* at the discretion of the author. Reviews will be supervised by editors of the respective publications, but it is important to point out that the Editor-in-Chief of *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* is also an associate editor of *JACC*. In that way, excellent papers submitted to *JACC* but felt to be too specialized can be accepted by the *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* without further review in some cases or with additional reviews if needed. Alternatively, authors who judge their manuscript better suited for the interventional community should submit directly to *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*. The experience over the last year may help authors understand how this has worked so far. As of mid-August 2008, there had been 435 total submissions to *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* of which 63 were transfers from *JACC* representing 14% of the total submissions. At that time, 101 papers had been accepted for publication and 21% of these came originally from *JACC*. So, one can see that four-fifths of the published manuscripts have come directly to the more specialized journal. My advice is to send the paper of more general interests to *JACC* and the paper with the greatest interest to interventionalists to *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*.

When Will My Article Be Listed in Medline?

Medline listing is a process that cannot take place until a journal has been accepted. The requirements for peer-review journals are strict and we feel that *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* is ideally suited for the earliest possible listing. The first 4 issues (a Medline requirement) have been submitted along with supportive documents and we are awaiting early action to enable listing. Importantly, all published articles will be retroactively included as soon as the Medline listing is accomplished.

How Do We Measure Success of This Journal?

Dr. Anthony DeMaria, Editor-in-Chief of *JACC*, wrote an Editor's Page that outlines metrics of a successful journal (1). One measure is the impact factor. This is the percent of citations of articles published in the journal over the previous 2 years divided by the number of articles published in the journal. This measure is designed to reflect the importance of manuscripts as reflected in how often they are cited. The impact factor is very prominent outside the U.S. and sometimes influences the decision regarding where to send a manuscript. *Circulation* and *JACC* rank highest among cardiovascular journals. By publishing original observations, *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions* is expected to achieve a very high impact factor. This, however, is not



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the only measure of success, and in fact, many articles that will be rarely cited deserve publication because of their clinical relevance and we intend to continue to publish the best of these.

Another measure is the circulation of the journal and how much it is read. *JACC* has by far the largest subscription of cardiovascular journals, and we are now pleased that 10,000 have subscribed to *JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions*.

Ultimately, the success of the journal will be judged by its clinical relevance. Because of the large number of submissions we intend to select articles that will best inform practice and the science of interventional cardiovascular medicine.

So Where Are We After 1 Year?

The 435 total submissions reflect 23 per month in the last half of 2007 and 39 per month this year. The acceptance rate for original research articles is 13%. Original research and accompanying editorial comments represent over 75% of the published manuscripts with the remaining types of publications being Viewpoints, State-of-the-Art Papers, Images in Intervention, Letters to the Editor, and News and Views from the ACC Interventional Scientific Council. The online version of the journal allows publication of

ancillary material including angiograms and other moving illustrations. Authors are encouraged to submit such material along with their print manuscripts. There have been 76,680 hits on the site in the first 6 months of 2008.

Because of the success of the journal in its first year, we have now been approved to move to a monthly publication which will commence in the New Year. I want to thank the many contributors to this success including the hardworking associate editors, the editorial board and reviewers, and especially all of you who have sent outstanding manuscripts. We hope to be able to publish more in the year to come.

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